

## Message Text

SECRET

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72

ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 /026 W

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R 201735Z AUG 73

FM AMEMBASSY PARIS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2631

INFO AMEMBASSY SAIGON

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

S E C R E T PARIS 22249

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, JA, VN

SUBJECT: JAPANESE NEGOTIATIONS WITH DRV ON RECOGNITION

REF: PARIS 20801

1. JAPANESE SECOND SECRETARY IMAGAWA GAVE EMBOFF RUNDOWN OF AUGUST 14 MEETING BETWEEN JAPANESE AND NORTH VIETNAMESE NEGOTIATORS AT JAPANESE EMBASSY. DRV DELEGATION WAS COMPOSED OF COUNSELOR NGUYEN TUAN LIEU, FIRST SECRETARY TRAN THIEN CAN, FIRST SECRETARY NGUYEN DAN VE. JAPANESE SIDE WAS COMPOSED OF MINISTER OKUHISA, COUNSELOR KATO, IMAGAWA; GAIMUSHO REPRESENTATIVE SATO HAD RETURNED TO TOKYO.

2. IMAGAWA SAID DRV HAS ACCEPTED JAPANESE POSITION THAT RECOGNITION SHOULD BE WITHOUT ANY PRE-CONDITIONS. HENCE, JAPANESE HAVE RECEIVED NONE OF THE PROPAGANDISTIC TREATMENT TO WHICH MIYAKE WAS SUBJECTED IN HANOI CONCERNING PRG, JAPANESE WAR REPARATIONS, AID PROGRAM. DISCUSSIONS HAVE BEEN "VERY BUSINESSLIKE." HOWEVER, NEGOTIATIONS ARE STILL BLOCKED BY THE DRV DESIRE TO HAVE A JOINT COMMUNIQUE BE THE PRINCIPAL, JURIDICAL DOCUMENT CONCERNING ESTABLISHMENT OF DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS; WHEREAS THE GOJ HOLDS THAT THE PRINCIPAL DOCUMENTS, SHOULD, ACCORDING TO GOJ CUSTOM, BE AN EXCHANGE OF NOTES:

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JAPANESE PROPOSING ESTABLISHMENT OF RELATIONS AND DRV

ACCEPTANCE. THE JAPANESE ARE PREPARED TO DISCUSS A JOINT COMMUNIQUE AS WELL, BUT WISH TO COME TO AN AGREEMENT ON THE TEXT OF THE NOTES. DRV WISHES TO ADDRESS POSSIBILITY OF NOTES ONLY AFTER AGREEMENT ON THE COMMUNIQUE. THE JAPANESE, THEREFORE, ANTICIPATE THERE MAY BE ANOTHER TWO OR THREE SESSIONS BEFORE THEY CAN BRING THE DRV TO AN ACCEPTABLE COMPROMISE. IMAGAWA NOTED AGAIN THAT TOKYO WAS BEING "VERY HARD".

3. SINCE VO VAN SUNG RESUMED ROLE AS CHARGE AUGUST 12, DRV SUGGESTED JAPANESE AMBASSADOR AND DRV CHARGE HEAD DELEGATIONS. THE JAPANESE PREFER TO LEAVE NEGOTIATIONS AT LIEU/TOKUHISA LEVEL, BUT WILL BE PREPARED TO SIGN AT THE LEVEL OF HIGHEST RESPECTIVE REPRESENTATIVES IN PARIS.

4. IMAGAWA THOUGHT NEXT MEETING WOULD TAKE PLACE AT END OF AUGUST OR FIRST FEW DAYS OF SEPTEMBER. HE AGAIN NOTED THAT IN VIEW OF THEIR AGREEMENT WITH THE DRV, ABOVE INFORMATION SHOULD BE CONSIDERED SENSITIVE. STONE

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NNN

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